U.S. to conduct a Superfund Hazardous Ranking System assessment of Santa Susana Field Lab property

Release date: 04/12/2007

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Score will be used to determine if the Lab site can be considered for Superfund listing

SAN FRANCISCO – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is planning to conduct a sitewide Hazard Ranking System scoring analysis on the Santa Susanna Field Laboratory site located in Simi Valley, Calif.

The EPA plans to evaluate the entire Lab site property, including Areas I-IV as well as the Energy Technology Engineering Center, part of an area within Area IV. The purpose of this assessment is to determine whether the Lab property as a whole has a preliminary score sufficient for possible listing on the National Priorities List.

"This review will include the entire site and all contaminants, both chemical and radiological," said Keith Takata, the EPA's Superfund division director for the Pacific Southwest region. "A site-wide assessment will help the Agency determine whether the Lab property as a whole is eligible for possible listing on the National Priorities List."

The EPA's Superfund division has evaluated different areas of the Lab property since 1980. The agency is updating the information it has collected for these four areas to determine if any additional site assessment work is warranted.

The agency expects to complete this evaluation and report back to the community by the end of the year. Once the scoring process is complete, the EPA, in consultation with the state of California, will make a determination if the site should be considered for the National Priorities or Superfund list